

§ 17.41

50 CFR Ch. I (10–1–04 Edition)

are covered by a separate special regulation in paragraph (d) of this section.

[40 FR 44415, Sept. 26, 1975]

EDITORIAL NOTE: For FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting § 17.40, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and on GPO Access.

§ 17.41 Special rules—birds.

(a) Bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) wherever listed as threatened under § 17.11(h).

(1) *Applicable provisions.* All prohibitions and measures of §§ 17.31 and 17.32 shall apply to any threatened bald eagle, *except* that any permit issued under § 21.22 or part 22 of this chapter shall be deemed to satisfy all requirements of §§ 17.31 and 17.32 for that authorized activity, and a second permit shall not be required under § 17.32. A permit is required under § 17.32 for any activity not covered by any permit issued under § 21.22 or part 22 of this chapter.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*). (1) Except as noted in paragraphs (b)(2) and (3) of this section, all prohibitions of § 17.31(a) and (b) shall apply to the coastal California gnatcatcher.

(2) Incidental take of the coastal California gnatcatcher will not be considered a violation of section 9 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), if it results from activities conducted pursuant to the State of California's Natural Community Conservation Planning Act of 1991 (NCCP), and in accordance with a NCCP plan for the protection of coastal sage scrub habitat, prepared consistent with the State's NCCP Conservation and Process Guidelines, *provided that*:

(i) The NCCP plan has been prepared, approved, and implemented pursuant to California Fish and Game Code sections 2800–2840; and

(ii) The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has issued written concurrence that the NCCP plan meets the standards set forth in 50 CFR 17.32(b)(2). The Service shall issue its concurrence pursuant to the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), dated December 4, 1991, between the California Department of Fish and

Game and the Service regarding coastal sage scrub natural community conservation planning in southern California. (Copies of the State's NCCP Conservation and Process Guidelines and the MOU are available from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad Field Office, 2730 Loker Avenue West, Carlsbad, CA 92008.) The Service shall monitor the implementation of the NCCP plan and may revoke its concurrence under this paragraph (b)(2)(ii) if the NCCP plan, as implemented, fails to adhere to the standards set forth in 50 CFR 17.32(b)(2).

(3) During the period that a NCCP plan referred to in paragraph (b)(2) of this section is being prepared, incidental take of the coastal California gnatcatcher will not be a violation of section 9 of the Act if such take occurs within an area under the jurisdiction of a local government agency that is enrolled and actively engaged in the preparation of such a plan and such take results from activities conducted in accordance with the NCCP Conservation Guidelines and Process Guidelines.

(4) The Service will monitor the implementation of the NCCP Conservation and Process Guidelines as a whole, and will conduct a review every 6 months to determine whether the guidelines, as implemented, are effective in progressing toward or meeting regional and subregional conservation objectives during the interim planning period. If the Service determines that the guidelines are not effecting adequate progress toward or meeting regional and subregional conservation objectives, the Service will consult with the California Department of Fish and Game pursuant to the MOU to seek appropriate modification of the guidelines or their application as defined therein. If appropriate modification of the guidelines or their application as defined therein does not occur, the Service may revoke the interim take provisions of this special rule on a subregional or subarea basis. The Service will publish the findings for revocation in the FEDERAL REGISTER and provide for a 30-day public comment period prior to the effective date for revoking the provisions of the special rule in a particular area. Revocation would result in the reinstatement of the take

prohibitions set forth under 50 CFR 17.31(a) and (b) in the affected NCCP area.

[43 FR 6233, Feb. 14, 1978, as amended at 58 FR 65095, Dec. 10, 1993; 60 FR 36010, July 12, 1995]

§ 17.42 Special rules—reptiles.

(a) American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*)—(1) *Definitions.* For purpose of this paragraph (a): “American alligator” shall mean any member of the species *Alligator mississippiensis*, whether alive or dead, and any part, product, egg, or offspring thereof found in captivity or the wild.

(2) *Taking.* No person may take any American alligator, except:

(i) Any employee or agent of the Service, any other Federal land management agency, or a State conservation agency, who is designated by the agency for such purposes, may, when acting in the course of official duties, take an American alligator.

(ii) Any person may take an American alligator in the wild, or one which was born in captivity or lawfully placed in captivity, and may deliver, receive, carry, transport, ship, sell, offer to sell, purchase, or offer to purchase such alligator in interstate or foreign commerce, by any means whatsoever and in the course of a commercial activity in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of taking subject to the following conditions:

(A) Any hide of such alligator may be sold or otherwise transferred only in compliance with paragraph (a)(2)(ii)(C) of this section;

(B) Any hide, meat or other part may be sold or otherwise transferred only in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State in which the taking occurs and the State in which the sale or transfer occurs;

(C) The State of taking requires hides to be tagged by State officials, or under State supervision, with a Service approved tag, a sample of which must be on file in the Federal Wildlife Permit Office (FWPO), that:

(1) Is made of permanent material,

(2) Shows State of origin, year of take, species, and is serially unique, and

(3) Cannot be opened and reused once attached to the hide.

(iii) *Import/Export.* Any person may import or export hides, manufactured products, meat or other parts in accordance with part 23 of this chapter.

(iv) *Recordkeeping*

(A) Any person not holding an import/export license issued by the Service under § 14.91 and who imports, exports, or obtains permits under part 23 for the import or export of American alligator shall keep such records as are otherwise required to be maintained by all import/export licensees under § 14.93(d). Such records shall be maintained as in the normal course of business, reproducible in the English language, and retained available for Service inspection for 5 years from the date of each transaction.

(B) Subject to applicable limitations of law, duly authorized Service officers at all reasonable time shall, upon notice, be afforded access to examine such records required to be kept under paragraph (a)(2)(iv)(A)(1) of this section, and an opportunity to copy such records.

(b) Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) (these do not include the populations listed as endangered in § 17.11).

(1) *Prohibitions.* Subject to the permits allowable under the following paragraph (b)(2) of this section, all of the provisions set forth in § 17.31 (which incorporate portions of § 17.21) shall apply to this wildlife with the following exceptions:

(i) Section 17.21(c)(2) (self-defense) is not applicable.

(ii) In § 17.21(c)(3)(i), the word “orphaned” is replaced by the word “stranded.”

(iii) Delete § 17.21(c)(3)(iv) (Wildlife threatening human safety).

(iv) [Reserved]

(v) The prohibition against taking shall not apply to incidental catches, as specified in 50 CFR 227.72(e).

(vi) The prohibition against taking within the United States or the territorial sea of the United States shall not apply to subsistence taking, as specified in 50 CFR 227.72(f).

(2) *Permits.* (i) For those activities which come under the jurisdiction of